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#### 3-BRONQ-2-t-BUTYLSULFONYL-1-PROPENE. A VERSATILE MOLTI-COUPLING REAGENT Part 11 1

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Summary - 3-Bromo-2-t-butylsulfonyl propene <u>1</u> is able to react with a large array of nucleophiles, but also of electrophiles in the presence of a metal. We show here that the resulting functionalized vinyl sulfones can add a variety of nucleophiles like lithium organometallics, lithium cuprates, dimethyl malonate, or nitroalkanes, to furnish highly functionalized sulfones, in some cases with a high diastereoselectivity. The synthetic potential of <u>1</u> is illustrated by an approach to retinal structure and to various enones, and to a conjugated dienone.

# A - Introduction

In the preceding paper of this series<sup>1</sup>, we have shown that the title compound <u>1</u> may be used as an electrophilic or a nucleophilic species (Scheme 1) Scheme 1



We have taken advantage of the fact that Nucleophiles Nu<sup>1</sup> react only once with the substrate  $1^{-1}$ , so that we could consider either 2 or 3 as potential candidates for a second nucleophilic addition (Scheme 2).

Scheme 2



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# Table 1. Products of type <u>4</u> and <u>5</u> obtained by the addition of a nucleophile respectively to sulfones of type 2 and 3

Entry	Unsatur sulfone	' Nucleophile		Product of type 4 or 5 <sup>a,b</sup>	Reaction conditions	Yield %
1	<u>2a</u>	Bu_CuLi (2 <sup>2</sup> eq.)	<u>4a</u>	Bu O-t.Bu	1. hrˈat -35°	89
2	<u>2b</u>	Ph2CuLi.Me2S (2 <sup>2</sup> eq.)	<u>4b</u>		1. hr at -30°	72
3	<u>2c</u>	Bu <sub>2</sub> CuLi (2 <sup>2</sup> 0q.)	4ç	Bu	1.5hr at -30°	92
4	<u>3a</u>	(Z)-propen 1-yl lithium (2 eq.)	<u>5a</u>	E OH t.Bu	0.30hr at -80°	81
5	<u>3a</u>	PhLi (2.1 eq.)	<u>5b</u>	Ph. OH t.Bu	0.30hr at -80°	93
6	<u>3a</u>	(Z)-3-hexenyl- lithium	<u>5c</u>	Et CH t.Bu	0.30hr at -80°	90
7	<u>3b</u>	BuLi (2.1 eq.)	<u>5d</u>	Bu Ch Me	0.30 hr at -80°	88
8	<u>3c</u>	BuLi (1.05 eq.)	<u>5f</u>	Bu Pent	1. hr at -80°	87
9	<u>2c</u>	2-nitropropane (excess)	<u>4d</u>		leq. of DBU, 50 hr at 25°	75
10	<u>2d</u>	2-nitropropane (excess)	<u>4e</u>	NO <sub>2</sub> E t.Bu	leq. of DBU, 12 hr at 120°	0
11	<u>3a</u>	1-nitrohexane (excess)	<u>59</u>	Pent Pent C.Bu	1eq. of DBU, 1. hr at 25°	72
12	<u>3a</u>	dimethylmalonate	<u>5h</u>	(MeOCO) <sub>2</sub> <sup>CH</sup> , t.E	leq. of DBU,	86
13	<u>3a</u>	2-nitropropan <del>e</del>	<u>51</u>	NO <sub>2</sub> E OH	leq. of DBU,	90
14	<u>3d</u>	1,1-dimethoxy- 3-nitrobutane <u>7</u> (excess)	<u>51</u>	OH E NO2 CHIOM	<sup>e)</sup> 21eq. of DBU, 100hr at 25°	95

a/ The dotted lines in compounds <u>4</u> and <u>5</u> indicate the newly formed carbon-carbon bond b/ The diastereoisomeric ratios determinated by <sup>1</sup>H NMR are : <u>5a</u>:95/5, <u>5b</u>:90/10, <u>5c</u>:95/5, <u>5d</u>:57/43, <u>5h</u>:95/5, <u>5i</u>:68/32.

# B - Results and discussion<sup>3</sup>

From our previous study<sup>1</sup> we selected compounds 2 a-c and 3 a-d :

$$SO_{2} \qquad \underline{2a} : Y = COO-ter-Bu, \quad \underline{2b} : Y = CH=C(Me)_{2},$$

$$Y \qquad \underline{2c} : Y = i.Pr,$$

$$GH$$

$$SO_{2} \qquad \underline{3a} : Z = -CHOH-ter-Bu, \quad \underline{3b} : Z = -C(Me)(Ph),$$

$$\frac{3a}{2} : Z = -CHOH-ter-Bu, \quad \underline{3b} : Z = -C(Me)(Ph),$$

$$\frac{3c}{2} : Z = -C \qquad \underbrace{3c}_{Pent} \quad \underbrace{3d}_{Pent} : Z = -C \qquad \underbrace{1}_{Me} \quad \underbrace{1}_{Me} \quad \underbrace{1}_{Pent} : Z = -C \qquad \underbrace{1}_{Me} \quad \underbrace{1}_{Pent} : Z = -C \qquad \underbrace{1}_{Pent} : Z = -C \qquad \underbrace{1}_{Me} \quad \underbrace{1}_{Pent} : Z = -C \qquad \underbrace{1}_{Me} \quad \underbrace{1}_{Pent} : Z = -C \qquad \underbrace{1$$

The various nucleophilic additions are quoted in table 1.

Thus, the addition of lithium cuprates<sup>4</sup> proceeds smoothly (within 1 hr at  $-30^{\circ}$ ); see entries 1-3 of table 1. The presence of an ester group in the unsaturated sulfone <u>2a</u> is tolerated and the cuprate attacks selectively the vinyl sulfone functionality (see entry 1 of table 1). The  $\beta$ -hydroxy sulfone <u>3a</u> reacts with various organolithium compounds (0.25 hr, -80°C) to give, after a remarkably diastereoselective protonation, the  $\beta$ -sulfonyl alcohols <u>5a-5c</u> of a diastereoisomeric purity higher than 90% (see entries 4-6 of table 1). The formation of a chelate of type <u>6</u>:



may be responsible for the highly diastereoselective protomation. The two bulky groups  $(-5D_2 tBu \text{ and } -tBu)$  are both in pseudo-equatorial positions in 6. The utility of this control seems to be unfortunately limited, since the  $\beta$ -hydroxy sulfone <u>3b</u> gives a mixture of diastereoisomers (see entry 7 of table 1).

A variety of nitroalkanes  $^5$  and dimethylmalonate add to sulfones of type 2 and 3. Thus 1 equivalent of the unsaturated sulfone and 1 equivalent of 1,8-diazabicyclo (5.4.0) undec-7-ene (DBU) are stirred at 25° in the nitroalkane as solvent. The rate of the reaction depends greatly on the structure of the sulfone. The presence of a  $\beta$ -hydroxy group in the unsaturated sulfone leads to a fast reaction (compare for example entries 9 and 13 of table 1). The reaction is very sensitive to steric hindrance, since the sulfone 2d which differs from 2c by the presence of one more methyl group on m eta-position gives no addition reaction even under forcing conditions (12 hr at 120°; compare entries 9 and 10 of table 1). Also a primary nitroalkane gives a faster reaction than a secondary one (compare entries 11 and 13 of table 1). Dimethylmalonate adds also under similar reaction conditions to furnish with good yield and high diastereoselectivity the highly functionalized sulfone  $\underline{5h}$  (entry 12 of table 1). The addition of the easily  $^{6}$  available nitroalkane 7 (see scheme 3) leads in high yield to the hydroxy sulfone 5j which has the same carbon skeletton and the same oxidation state as retinal 8. This example demonstrates nicely the advantages of a synthesis strategy using a multi-coupling reagent, since the retinal precursor 5j was synthesized in only two steps starting from m eta-ionone, the nitro alkane 7 and the multi-coupling reagent 1 (see entry 14 of table 1 and scheme 4).





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Reaction conditions : A : NH<sub>3</sub>OHCl, AcONa, 60° (72%) ; B : HOCl (1 eq.) benzene then NaOCl (1 eq.), HSO<sub>4</sub> NBu<sub>4</sub> (54%) ; C : H<sub>2</sub>, 1 atm., 25°, 4 hr, Pd/C (72%) Scheme 4



The starting sulfone <u>1</u> may be also looked at in terms of an  $a^2 d^2 d^1$  synthon : if the  $\alpha$ -sulfonyl carbanion is treated with an electrophile E' (instead of hydrolysis leading to <u>5</u>).



For example, alkylation of  $\alpha$ -sulfonyl tertiary carbanions is well documented<sup>7</sup>, and requires the use of polar aprotic solvents. We have checked that methylation was readily achieved in the presence of THF/HMPT : 90/20 and allylation occurs even in the absence of the latter solvent (Scheme 5)

Scheme 5



Finally, one example will be given, where the sulfonyl moiety of reagent 1 can be discarded, once the desired C-C couplings have been carried out. For example, in cases where a keto- or hydroxy group has been brought in, in  $\beta$ -position of the sulfone, a ready elimination leads to the enone (scheme 6)





For this purpose, hydroxy derivatives  $\underline{5b}$ ,  $\underline{5c}$  (see table 2) have been oxidized by pyridinium chlorochromate in dichloromethane<sup>8</sup> (1hr at  $25^{\circ}$ C) and ketals  $\underline{5f}$ ,  $\underline{10}$  have been hydrolyzed by

treatment with wet silicagel in dichloromethane 3hr at  $25^{\circ}C^{9}$ .

The ketones <u>11b</u>, <u>11c</u>, <u>11f</u>, <u>12</u> thus obtained, when treated with one equivalent of DBU at 25°C in dichloromethane, lead respectively to enones <u>13b</u>, <u>13c</u>, <u>13f</u> and <u>14</u> (see table 2).

# Table 2. Proparation of enones and dienones from d-tert-butyl sulfonyl alcohols or ecetals

Substrate	Intermediate (Yield %) Product Yie	ld % <sup>(a)</sup>
5 <u>5</u>	$\frac{E}{Bu} \xrightarrow{11b} (87) \xrightarrow{Ph} \xrightarrow{0} tBu \xrightarrow{13b} tBu \xrightarrow{13b} tBu \xrightarrow{11b} (87)$	93
<u>5c</u>	$Et \xrightarrow{\Sigma}_{tBu} \underbrace{11c}_{tBu} (88) \underbrace{ft}_{Et} \underbrace{0}_{tBu} \underbrace{13c}_{tBu} \underbrace{13c}_{tBu}$	90
<u>5f</u>	$Bu \xrightarrow{\Sigma} 0 \\ Pent \underline{11f} (85) \\ Bu \xrightarrow{Pent \underline{13f}} Pent \underline{13f}$	90
<u>10</u>	$\sum_{\text{Pent}}^{\text{Pent}} \frac{12}{(88)} \xrightarrow{\text{Pent}} 0$	77
	·	

#### (a) from intermediate ketone

The newly formed C=C double bond is of E configuration ( >98%) except for enone  $\underline{14}$  (E/Z=60/40).

 $\delta$ -hydroxy - $\delta'$ -nitrosulfone <u>5i</u>, once oxidized to the corresponding ketune <u>11i</u> will eliminate sequencially one tert-butyl sulfonyl moiety, then a nitrite moiety, by treatment with excess of DBU (3hr at 25°C in dichloromethane) to give dienone <u>13i</u> in 90% (E>98% according to <sup>13</sup>C NMR). (See scheme 7)<sup>10</sup>.

Scheme 7



Such a double elimination sequence has been recently used in a synthesis of coriolin<sup>11</sup>.

# C - Conclusion

The multicoupling ability of the bromovinylsulfone  $\underline{1}$  allows the introduction of a variety of functional groups to prepare new vinyl sulfones of type  $\underline{2}$ ,  $\underline{3}$ . These latter also add various nucleophiles giving highly functionalized substrates, hence a way, for example to enones or dienones:



## EXPERIMENTAL PART -

THF and ether were distilled from sodium/benzophenone. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer 457G spectrometer. Proton NMR spectra were obtained at 100MHz with a Jeol MH100 and at 250MHz with a Bruker AM 250. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were obtained with a Jeol FX90. Chemical shifts in CDC1, solution are reported in ppm relative to tetramethylsilane as an internal standard. Gas chromatography was carried out with a Carlo Erba 2150 model equiped with an 20V 101 (20 m) column. Merck 60 (70-230 mesh) silica gel was used for the flash chromatography

# Addition of nucleophiles on sulfones of type 2 and 3

# t-Butyl 4-t-butylsulfonylnonanoate 4a

**t-Buty1 4-t-buty1sulfony1monanoate 4a** A solution of lithium dibuty1cuprate (8 mmoles) was prepared by the addition of 8.1 ml of BuLi (16 mmol) 1.98N in ether to a suspension of 1.55 g (8 mmol) of Cul in 32 ml of ether at -50°. After 15 min of stirring at -30°, 1.1 g (3.98 mmol) of the sulfone 2a dissolved in 3 ml of ether was added at -40°. After 1 hr at -35° the reaction was worked up as usually and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (solvent : hexane : CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> : ether/20:20:1) to give 1.19 g of white crystals (m.p. 68°C; 89% yield). See table 3 for the spectroscopic data. Found : C, 61.10 ; H, 10.18%. Calcd. for  $C_{17}H_{34}SO_4$  : C, 61.04 ; H, 10.24%.

#### 2-t-Butylsulfony1-5-methyl-1-phenyl-4-hexene 4b

A solution of the complexe  $Ph_{C}uLi.Me_{2}S$  was prepared by the addition at -50° of 12 ml (10 mmol) of phenyllithium (0.83N in other) to a suspension of 1.027 g (5 mmol) of CuBr.Me<sub>2</sub>S in 20 ml of ether. After 15 min of stirring at -20°, the now homogeneous solution of the cuprate was cooled to -40° and a solution of 550 mg (2.55 mmol) of the sulfone 2b was added. The reaction mixture was stirred 1 hr at -30° and worked up to give a residue which was purified by flash chromatography (solvent : hexane : ether :  $CH_2Cl_2/8:1:8$ ). White crystals are obtained (540 mg; 72% yield ; m.p. 49°). See table 6 for the spectroscopic data. Found : C, 69.27 ; H, 8.96%. Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{26}SO_2$  : C, 69.34 ; H, 8.90%.

#### 2-Méthyl-4-t-Butyl sulfonyl nonane 4c

z-rectny1-4-t-buty1 sulformy1 nonane 4C A solution of lithium dibutylcuprate (5 mmol) prepared as described above was cooled at -45° and a solution of 500 mg (2.45 mmol) of the sulfone 2c in 5 ml of ether was added. The reaction mixture was stirred 1.5 hr at -30° and worked up; The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (solvent : hexane : CH\_Cl<sub>2</sub> : ether/8:8:1) to give 590 mg of white crystals (m.p. 34°; 92% yield). See table 6 for the spectroscopic data.

## General procedure for the addition of organolithium compounds to sulfones 5 (a-d)

In a three neck-flask, fitted with a thermometer, a magnetic bar and a septum, and flushed with argon, 2.5 mmol of the vinyl sulfone in 8 ml THF are first added. The mixture is cooled to -80 °C and a solution of the lithium compound (2.1 eq.) is added dropwise in 10 min, with a syringe, or with a teflon cannula. The reaction is followed by t.l.c. and is over in 30–40 min at –80°C. 20 ml of sat. aqueous NH\_Cl solution and 20 ml CH\_Cl are then added. The two phases are separa-ted The aqueous layer is extracted (20 ml CH\_Cl 2). The organic phases are joined, then washed to neutral with small portions of HCl 1N, then 10 ml of brine. After drying over magnesium sulfate, and evaporation of the solvents under a vacuum, the crude product is flash chromatographed. See table 3 for NMR data.

# 5-tert-Butylsulfonyl-2,2-dimethyl-7-nonen-3-ol (Z) 5a

(from (Z)-propen-1-yl lithium and 3a). Obtained : 0.58 g (81%) Eluent CH\_Cl\_ : hexane : ether/70:30:5. m.p. :  $85^{\circ}$ C (CH\_Cl\_/pentane). Only one diastereoisomer is found by MMR (d.r > 95/5). Found : C, 61.98 ; H, 10.51%. Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>30</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> : C, 61.98 ; H, 10.51%.

5-tert-Butylsulfonyl-6-phenyl-2,2-dimethyl-3-hexanol 5b (from phenyllithium and 3a). Found 0.76 g (93%). Eluent : CH\_Cl\_ : hexane : ether/70:30:10. Oil. The two diastereoisomers (90/10) are not separated

5-tert-Butylsulfonyl-2,2-dimethyl-9 dodecen-3-ol (2) 5c (from (2)-3 hexenyllithium and 3a). Obtained : 0.75 g (90%). Eluent same as for 5b 0il. Only one diastereoisomer is detected by NMR.

#### 4-tert-Butylsulfonyl-2-phenyl nonan-2-ol 5d

(from n.Butyllithium and <u>3b</u>). Obtained : 0.74 g (88%). Eluent : same as for <u>5a</u>. Oil. The mixture of the two diastereoisomers (57/43) is not separated. Found : C, 67.06 ; H, 9.50%. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>32</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> : C, 67.02 ; H, 9.47%.

# Preparation of the dioxolane 3c13

Prepared according to R. Novori

Prepared according to R. Noyori In a three-neck flask equipped with a thermometer and a magnetic ber, are placed 350 mg (1.34 mmol) of 2-t-Butylsulfonylnon-1-en-4-one, 350 mg (1.7 mmol) of 1,2-bistrimethylsilyoxy ethane, and 2 ml CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The mixture is cooled at  $-78^{\circ}$ C and one drop on trimethylsilyltrifluoromethane sulfonate is added. After stirring at  $-40^{\circ}$ C for 24 h, the mixture is hydrolyzed with 5 ml of a saturated sodium hydrogencarbonate solution; The organic phase is washed with 2 x 20 ml of sat. HNaCO<sub>3</sub> solution, 20 ml water, and 20 ml brine. After drying of the organic phase on magnesium sulfate and evaporation of solvents, 401 mg (99%) of pure <u>3c</u> are obtained.

# Dioxolame of 6-tert-butylsulfonyl-8-tridecanone 5f

From 3c, see general procedure but 1.05 eq. of n.BuLi is used instead of 2.1 eq. 0.4 g (87%) of 5f (oil) are obtained. Same eluent as for 5a. (NMR data, table 3)

General procedure for the addition of nitroalkanes or malonates In a flask equipped with magnetic stirring are placed 1.2 mmol of the vinylic sulfone, 1.5 ml of nitroalkane or dimethyl malonate and 220 mg (1.45 mmol of 1,5-diazabicyclo(5,4,0)undene-5 (DBU)) under an argon atmosphere. The reaction is followed by t.l.c. When the reaction is over, 100 ml of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> are added, and the organic layer is washed successively with a 10% HCl solution (3 x 30 ml), a saturated solution of sodium carbonate (30 ml) and brine (30 ml). After drying over magnesium sulfate, and evaporation of solvents under vacuum, the crude product is purified by chromatography U. The reaction conditions (time, temperature) are quoted in table 1 ; chromatography spectroscopic data are quoted in table 3.

# 4-tert-Butylsulfonyl-2-nitro-2,6-dimethylheptane 4d

From 2c, and 2-nitropropane, 0.18 g of 4d are obtained (75%) as an oil. Same eluent as for 5a.

# 5-tert-Butylsulfonyl-7-nitro-2,2-dimethyl-3-dodecanol 5g

From 3a and 1-nitrohexane, 0.32 g (72%) of 5h (oil) are obtained (same eluent as for 5b. Four diastereoisomers are obtained, and not separated.

# Dimethyl-(2-tert-butylsulfonyl-4-hydroxy-5,5-dimethyl-1-hexyl)-2-malonate 5h

From 3a and dimethylmalonate, 0.39 g of 5i are obtained (86%) as an oil ; same eluent as for 5b. Only one diastereoisomer is observed in NMR.

# 5-tert-Butylsulfonyl-7-nitro-2,2,7-trimethyl-3-octanol 5i

From <u>7c</u> and 2-nitropropane, 0.37 g of <u>5i</u> are obtained (90%). Same eluent as for <u>5b</u>. Crystals. m.p. : 123°-132°C (from CH\_Cl\_/Pentane). Mixture of two diastereoisomers (68/32). Found : C, 53.25 ; H, 9.30%. Calcd. for  $C_{15}H_{31}NSO_5$  : C, 53.39 ; H, 9.26%.

# 1,1-Dimethoxy-3-nitrobutane 7 6

- 1/ In a flask containing 60 ml of water kept at 60°C and stirred magnetically, are added 20 g of 1,1-dimethoxybutan-3-one (150 mmol), 2 g of sodium acetate (24.3 mmol) and 16 g of hydroxy-lamin hydrochloride (230 mmol). The mixture is stirred for 45 min, while the temperature is allowed to reach 25°C, and then extracted with ether (4 x 50 ml); the organic phases are joined and washed with a saturated solution of sodium hydrogencerbonate, until neutral, then with brine. The solution is dried over potential over potential and columny. with brine. The solution is dried over potassium carbonate and solvents are evaporated under vacuum. The yellow oil is distilled (b.p.  $126^{\circ}C/10$  torr); 16 g (72%) of the oxime is thus obtained.
- 2/ To 61 mmol (9 g) of the oxime, in 300 ml of benzene, is added 1 equivalent (332 ml) of hypochlorous acid 0.184N at P.5.5, obtained by acidification by sulfuric acid, of a commercial solution of sodium hypochlorite. The two-phase blue solution is vigorously stirred for 30 min solution or solution hypochlorite. The two-phase plue solution is vigorously stirred for 30 min at 25°C. The organic phase, containing the chloronitroso intermediate is treated with 245 ml of a solution of sodium hypochlorite at  $P_1$ 10.0, containing 7.06 g of tetrabutylammonium hydrogenosulfate. After stirring for 30 min at room temperature, the blue colour is discharged, the organic phase is decanted, and the aqueous phase is extracted with ether (4 x 50 ml). The joined organic phases are washed with brine (2 x 100 ml), then dried over magnesium sulfate, and solvents are evaporated under vacuum.

The crude oil is then purified by bulb to bulb distillation to give 16 g (54%) of 1,1-dimethoxy-3-chloro-3-nitro butane b.p.=  $65^{\circ}C/1$  torr.

Note :  $P_{ij}$  values must be controlled accurately (  $\pm$  0.1 unit), and the commercially available "line water" must be of recent origin.

3/ 2.7 g (13.6 mmol) of the preceding chloro nitro acetal are dissolved in a mixture of methanol (150 ml) and NaOH 2N (36 ml). 495 mg of palladium 5% on charcoal are added, and hydrogenation is performed under a normal pressure of H<sub>2</sub> at 23°C for 4 h. After filtration of the catalyst, and addition of 17 ml of acetic acid, the mixture is continuously extracted with pentane during 12 h. Pentane is distilled under normal pressure and the residue is distilled to give 1.61 g (72.2%) of nitroacetal 7 b.p. = 88°C/3 torr.

## 5-tert-butylsulfonyl-3-nitro-1,1-dimethoxy-3,7-dimethyl-9-(2,6,6-trimethylcyclohexen-1-yl)-2 nonen-7-ol 5j

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see the general procedure starting from 3d and 7. 4.12 g (95%) of 5j are obtained as an oil (same eluent as for 5b) containing 4 diastereoisomers.

# Alkylation

# Dioxolane of 4-tert-butylsulfonyl-4-m.pentyl-1-undecene-6-one (10)

3c is treated according to the procedure leading to 5f, but instead of hydrolyzing the reaction mixture, 4 mmol (0.49 g) of allyl bromide in 5 ml THF are added, and the temperature is allowed to raise to 25°. The reaction is followed by t.l.c. until completion, and the mixture is hydrolyzed according to the general procedure leading to  $\frac{5a-d}{0.64}$  g of dioxolane 10 (80%) are obtained, as an oil.

#### Synthesis of enones and dienones

# General procedure for the oxidation of alcohols into ketomes

To a solution of 2.3 mmol of the alcohol in 10 ml CH\_CL, is added 1.6 g (7.4 mmol) of pyridinium chlorochromate, and the mixture is magnetically stirred over 8 hr at room temperature. The

mixture turns black and a precipitate separates out. 50 ml ether and 50 ml dichloromethane are added, and the mixture is filtrated over a short column of silicagel (3 x 3 cm) deposited on a sintered glass to remove the chromium salts.

The precipitate is washed with CH\_Cl, until the filtrate is free of product. The filtrates are joined and solvents are evaporated in vacuum. The residue is purified by flash chromatography on silicagel. For spectroscopic data see table 4.

5-tert-Butylsulfonyl-6-phenyl-2,2-dimethyl-3-hexanone 11b From 5b. Eluent CH\_Cl\_:hexane:ether/70:30:5. Obtained 0.65 g (87%) of 11b (oil).

5-tert-butylsulfonyl-2,2-dimethyl-9-dodecen-3-one (Z) 11c From 5c. Same eluent as above. Obtained 0.67 g of 11c as an oil

5-tert-Butylsulfonyl-7-nitro-2,2,7-trimethyloctan-3-one 11i From 51. Same eluent as above. Obtained 0.67 g of 111 as an oil.

General procedure for the hydrolysis of sulfo-acetals

Silicagel for chromatography (3 g) is added, with stirring, to 4 ml CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, in order to obtain a homogeneous paste. 20 drops of 10% sulfuric acid are then added, followed by 1 mmol of the acetal in 1 ml of dichloromethane. The mixture is stirred for 4 hr at room temperature and 500 mg of solid hydrogen sodium carbonate are added. Stirring is continued for 10 min and the mixture is filtered. The precipitate is washed with dichloromethane (50 ml) and ether (50 ml). The joined solutions are evaporated under vacuum, and the residue is chromatographed on silicagel. Spectroscopic data in table 4.

**8-tert-Butyl-6-tridecanone** <u>11f</u> From <u>5f</u>. Same eluent as above. 0.202 g of <u>11f</u> (85%) are obtained as an oil. Found : C, 64.06 ; H, 10.86%. Calcd. for  $C_{17}H_{34}SO_3$  : C, 64.10 ; H, 10.76%. **4-tert-Butylsulfonyl-4-n.pentyl-1-undecen-6-one 12** From <u>10</u>. Same eluent as above. 0.315 g of <u>12</u> (88%) are obtained as an oil.

# General procedure for the elimination reactions by DBU

2.1 mmol of DBU (294 mg) (4.2 mmol in the case of nitroketone 11i) are added to a solution of 2 mmol of the ketone in 10 ml dichloromethane. The mixture is stirred at room temperature. The reaction is followed by t.l.c. When it is over (30 min to 90 min), 100 ml of dichloromethane are added, and the solution is washed successively with a 10% HCl solution (3 x 20 ml), a sat. solution of hydrogen sodium carbonate (2 x 20 ml) and brine (20 ml). The organic phase is dried over magnesium sulfate and then evaporated, and the residue is chromatographed on silicagel.

# 6-Pheny1-2,2-dimethy1-4-hexen-3-one (E) 13b

From <u>11b</u>. Eluent:CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:hexane:ether/70:30:1. 375 mg (93%) of ketone <u>13b</u> are obtained as an oil. Found : C, 83.05; H, **9**.05%. Calcd. for C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>18</sub>0 : C, 83.12; H, 9.00%. **2.2-Dimethyl-4.9-dodecadien-3-one (4E,92) 13c** 

From <u>11c</u>. Eluent : CH\_CL:hexane/70:30. 381.6 mg of <u>13c</u> are obtained as an oil (90%). 7-Tridecen-6-one (Z) <u>13f</u>

From 11f. Same eluent as in the preceding example. 353 mg of ketone 13f are obtained as an oil.(90%).

4-n.Pentyl-1,4-undecadien-6-one 14

From 12. Same eluent as in the preceding case. 364 mg of ketone 14 are obtained as an oil (77%). Mixture of two isomers E/Z = 40/60.

2,2,7-Trimethyl-4,6-octadien-3-one (E) 13i

From <u>11i</u>. Eluent : pentane: $CH_2Cl_2/40:60$ . 299 mg of ketone <u>13i</u> are obtained as an oil. (90%).

# Table 3. Spectroscopic data of compounds 4a-4e and 5a-5j

Structure		<sup>1</sup> H Spectra <sup>a</sup>	<sup>13</sup> C NMR Spectra <sup>a</sup>	I.R. <sup>b</sup>
$ \begin{array}{c}     b \\     c \\     c \\     \hline     c \\     c \\     \hline     c \\     \hline     c \\     c \\     \hline     c \\     \hline     c \\     c \\   $	<u>4a</u>	0.94(t,J=6.6Hz,3H,(a)); 1.27-2.35m,10H,(b,c,d, e,h);1.46(s,9H,(m));1.50 (s,9H,(1));2.50(m,2H, (i));3.36(m,1H,(g))	172.1(j);80.5(k);60.8(n) 32.1;31.7;28.8;28.1(1) 26.5;24.3;23.8(m);22.4; 14.0(a)	2950,2920,2980, 1732,1468,1425, 1380,1362,1321, 1270,1150,1100, 849,700
Ph $\frac{q}{50_2 + k} i$	<u>4b</u>	1.43(s,9H,(i));1.48(s, 3H,(a));1.70(s,3H,(b)); 2.55(m,2H,(e));3.02(m, 1H,(g));3.35(m,1H,(g)); 3.53(m,1H,(f));5.28(t, J=6Hz,1H,(d));7.40(m,5H, arom. H)	138.2;134.5;129.1;128.5 126.7;120.0;60.8(h);59.3 (f);34.9(g);27.7(e);25.7 (b);23.8(i);17.7(a)	3060,3020,2960, 2920,1600,1490, 1465,1450,1285, 1110,800,748,700
$c = \frac{e}{k} \frac{g}{s0} \frac{h}{k}$	<u>4c</u>	0.93(m,9H,(i,j,a));1.27- 2.08(m,11H,(b,c,d,e,g, h));1.46(s,9H,(l));3.26 (m,1H,(f))	60.8(g);55.7(f);38.0; 31.9;29.5;26.4;26.0;24.1; 23.1(1);22.4(j);21.8(i); 14.0(a)	2960,2940,2870, 1465,1370,1285, 1120,1105,800, 700





a/ All spectra in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS as internal standard ; b/ I.R. spectra are recorded as films (liquids) or KBr plates (solids) ; c/ not recorded



Structure	<sup>1</sup> H NMR Spectra <sup>a</sup>	<sup>13</sup> C NMR Spectra <sup>a</sup>	L.R.
	0.92(m,6H,(a,r));1.58 (s,9H,(t));1.10-1.80(m, 14H,(b,c,d,n,o,p,q); 1.98(m,2H,(e));2.55(s, 2H,(i));2.91(m,2H,(k)); 4.05(m,4H,(g,h));5.19 (m,2H,(m));6.18(m,1H,(i));	134.40;117.66;11.73(f); 75.59(g,h);67.07(j); 63.61(s);39.09;38.79; 36.92;34.71;32.63;31.97; 26.19(t);23.84;22.56; 14.06(a,r)	3070,2960,2930, 2870,1635,1460, 1360,1275,1100, 1030,945,912,700, 680,650
	1.04(s,9H,(a));1.45(s, 9H,(k));2.40-3.10(m,2H, (f));3.40(m,2H,(d)); 4.50(m,1H,(e));7.40(s, 5H,(phenyl))	211.58(c);136.76(g); 129.16 and 128.68(h,i); 126.99(j);61.17(1);52.26 (e);43.86(b);36.29;35.69; 26.37(a);23.71(k)	c
B B B C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	0.96(t,3H,J=7.5Hz,(n)); 1.16(s,9H,(c));1.38(s, 9H,(a));2.04(m,4H(m,n)); 2.68(dxd,1H,part of an ABX system,JAB=18Hz, JAX=6Hz,(f);3.40(dxd,1H part of an ABX system, JAB=18Hz,JAX=6Hz,(f); 4.08(m,1H, part of an ABX system,(g);5.42(m, 2H,(k,1)	211.57(e);132.53(k); 127.82; 60.69(b);51.52 (g);44.09(f);36.38(h); 30.21;26.90,26.57(c); 23.68(a);20.50;14.27(n)	2960,2940,2880, 1710,1480,1465, 1400,1370,1350, 1285,1200,1115, 1065,1010,940,915, 850,805,715,700, 660
$ \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\$	0.90(m,6H,(c,o));1.44(s, 9H,(a));1.10-2.00(la, 14H,(d,e,f,k,1,m,n)); 2.50(m,3H,(g,i));3.20 (m,1H,(i));4.00(m,1H,(j))	207.16(h);60.72(b);52.23 (j);42.94(1);41.33(g); 31.52;31.31;30.66;26.64; 23.67(a);23.30;22.43; )13.91(c,o)	c
NO <sub>2</sub> BO2 0 11i 11i 11i	1.20 $(s, 9H, (k))$ ; 1.44 $(s, 9H, (g))$ ; 1.68 $(d, 5H, J=3Hz)$ (a, b); 2.25–2.85 $(m, 3H, (d, h))$ ; 3.57 $(dxd, 1H, part)of an ABX system, JAB=21H, JAX=6.5Hz, (d)); 4.26(m, 1H)part of ABX system, (e))$	211.04(i);86.77(c);61.92 (f);47.76;43.83;40.37; 38.22;26.58(g);23.75(k) z	c
	206.75(h);133.72(l); 128.82(m);75.20(j);66.65 (b);44.54(i);42.78(g); 39.09(k);34.77(n);32.29; 31.22;25.95(a);23.98; 23.30;22.46;14.03;13.91	c	c

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a/ CDCl<sub>p</sub> as solvent and TMS as internal standard ;

b/ recorded as films (liquids) or KBr plates (solids) ;

c/ not recorded

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